The People's Advocate.

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DON'T STAY LATE TO-NIGHT.

ANON.

The hearth of home is beaming
With rays of rosy light;
And lovely eyes are gleaming,
As falls the shade of night;
And while thy steps are leaving
The circles pure and bright,
A tender voice half grieving,
Says, "Don't stay late to-night."

The world in which thou movest
Is busy, brave and wide;
The world of her thou lovest,
Is at the ingle side;
She waits for thy warm greeting;
Thy smile is her delight.
Her gentle voice entreating,
Says, "Don't stay late to-night."

The world, so cold, inhuman,
Will spurn thee if thou fail;
The love of one poor woman,
Outlasts and shames them all;
Thy children will cling 'round thee,
Let fate be dark or bright;
At home no shaft will wound thee,
Then, "Don't stay late to-night."

FAMILIAR TALKS ON SCIENCE.—NO. 14.

WHAT IS LIGHT.

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Light moves with such amazing velocity as to suggest at once that it cannot be a ponderable substance. For if its weight were appreciable, the rapidity of its motion would give it an enormous momentum, and like the tornado it would drive everything before it. But if light have any momentum at all it is so slight that the most delicate contrivance of man fails to detect it. If, on the contrary, its particles have no weight, how could they be made to go so far and so fast? This question was indeed puzzling enough so long as light was supposed to be a substance. Recently, however, we have come to believe that light is not a substance, but that, like sound and heat and electricity, it is merely a mode of motion among the particles of an extremely elastic and all-pervading substance.

The best movements with which to compare light are the wave-circles which spread upon the surface of a smooth pond after something has disturbed it. The waves spread in every direction, until at length they reach the shore and wash its banks. But they grow smaller in height and feebler in power as they recede from the centre of disturbance; just as light grows dimmer or sound fainter in proportion to the distance of the observer from its origin.

It has been remarked that when one thinks he sees a star, he does not see it as it now is, but as it was when light left it years ago. How this may be was illustrated last summer. I was rowing in a still day in a small boat upon a beautiful lake where there were a great many islands. Suddenly the boat began gently to rock, and I saw a peculiar band of waves running past us. Soon we were in calm water again, but could still see the disturbed lines in the water which had passed us in their journey to the shore. What could it be? Our pilot announced that a steamboat had passed some distance beyond us a few moments before, and though he did not see it we knew well enough that we were now in its *wake*. Soon after, we all heard its whistle, and later still saw its form in the distance. Thus we were at length apprised of its existence by three kinds of waves—waves of water, waves of sound and waves of light. But these moved with unequal velocity. The waves on the water had been made perhaps ten minutes before we encountered them, but we saw the steam from the whistle ten seconds before we heard the sound and almost instantly upon its appearance. In the physical as in the moral world effects spread far beyond their causes, and consequences linger long after the agent is forgotten.

One of the proofs of the undulatory theory of light, i. e. that light moves moves through space in pulsations or waves as sound moves through air, or waves progress in water, is that "*under certain circumstances, light added to light causes darkness.*" Two sets of waves upon a surface of water may meet so that the crests of one set shall fill the hollows of the other and thus produce rest. There is a point between the vibrating prongs of a tuning-fork where the conflicting vibrations counteract each other and produce silence. So also by an ingenious arrangement of mirrors, Fernel was able to bring two rays of light into such relations that they destroyed each other, and when in conflict produced darkness.

It is also capable of demonstration that light is composed of several colors which do not look when together as they do when separated. In the rainbow we see the colors separated, but none of them are white. It is in their union that their whiteness, if not their strength, consists. Paint the seven colors in successive bands on the rim of a wheel and turn it rapidly, and instead of seeing seven separate colors you will see only white. The reason of this is that the impression made by these colors upon the eye when coming very close together is entirely different from what it is when coming at separate intervals. A ray of light is however such a curious bundle, and we have so many interesting things to say about it that we must leave them for the next time.

True.

There are scores of societies among our people, and all professing to be beneficiary. Now, I think that any close observer can see at a glance, that the way in which the larger proportion of our secular societies has been, and are being managed, they are a great impediment to our progress; morally, religiously, intellectually and financially. Whatever hinders our progress in any one of these, is a curse to us, and not a blessing. Those men and women that are out to their societies or lodges three our four nights in the week until eleven or twelve or twelve o'clock, don't have much time for either moral or religious improvements; and as a general thing when they die they leave their families poorer and more helpless, because it takes all the money the society has got to meet other expenses. In some of our large cities we have between twenty and thirty societies, and some of our brethren belong to nearly as many as there are nights in the week.

Now, I think that there is as much consistency in such a course as there is in a man having six wives, or in a woman having six husbands. In the first place, we have too many societies; and secondly, we put a higher estimate upon them than we do upon the church of Christ and own immortal souls; this is true if we are to judge by the people's action.—*Right Way.*

DEATH OF PROF. G. T. COOK.

Prof. G. T. Cook died of consumption, near Honey Grove, Fannin county, Texas, on Feb. 28th, 1881. Mr. Cook was one of the best educated and most earnest and faithful colored teachers in the State, and in his death the cause of education has sustained a heavy loss. He came from Tennessee to Texas, in May, 1879, taught a term in Dallas and afterwards taught in Ellis and Fannin counties. He was originally from Connecticut, but had spent several years in the South as an educator of his race. We had the pleasure of his personal acquaintance, and can bear testimony to the fact that during his residence in our State he was respected and loved by all who knew him. Peace to his ashes.—*Baptist Journal.*

SIMON CAMERON.

IN THE WEST INDIAN SCHOOL HOUSE AND HIS VIEWS ON AMERICAN EDUCATION.

"Yes, our system of education," replied Gov. Callahan, "is to my mind the simplest, as well as the best, that intelligence could desire. We give the elementary branches to perfection, and leave the rest to the scholar." The conversation turned upon the education of the colored people in the Bahamas, from the fact that Gen. Cameron, in his course of travel through the island and investigation of the condition of the race there, had accidently stopped at a schoolhouse at a little place called Sandilands, an out of the way Congo-negro town some distance back in the island. It was inhabited entirely by Negroes, many specimens of the original importation from Africa being seen. The houses were all built of stone, with thatched roofs made of palm leaves, and the schoolhouse was of the same material. Every building in the town was remarkable for

ITS RUDE SIMPLICITY

and cleanliness. The schoolhouse, which had 130 colored children, ranging from 5 to 12 years of age, was a model of cleanliness and preservation. It cost nothing except the labor of those whose children who were being educated there. The stone was picked up upon the spot where it was built, and the palms which made its roof were gathered from the adjoining field.

We accidently stopped at the school just as it was being called, and saw, without preparation, the every-day exercises of the scholars. When school was called, they ranged on either side of the schoolhouse, and at the tap of the teacher's stick marched in military order, girls on one side and boys on the other, both keeping perfect time to the tap of the master's ruler. When all were inside the building a hymn was sung, then the Lord's prayer recited by the school, a few verses of scripture read, first by the master and then by the scholars, and then the regular exercises in geography, reading and writing were gone through with. A colored boy not over 12 or 15 years old assisted the master in teaching the school. The proficiency of the scholars was simply marvelous, the oldest not being over twelve years of age and the youngest not over 6, yet not one of the 100 and more children but could make capital and small letters in writing, and could read with greater or less fluency. "We teach," said the colored schoolmaster to Gen. Cameron, "only the rudiments of an English education, geography, arithmetic, reading, writing, spelling and history, all of which they are required to learn. I am paid by the government of England $350 a year. I have been in

THE ENGLISH CIVIL SERVICE

for 17 years." As the teacher was giving us this information a large, portly man came in, whispered a moment to the teacher, took several names down upon a book and left "Who is that?" inquired Col. Duffy. "That is the school constable," replied the teacher; "an officer unknown in your country or to your people. He visits the different schools and takes the names of the people whose children are not present, and they are called before the magistrate and fined for the non-attendance of their children." What a commentary this system and this school furnishes upon our American system of education. The English government gives to its citizens such learning as will be useful to them in the industrial pursuits of life. This much it requires them all to acquire; more they can get if they have they the resources and the inclination. This school furnished a striking example of the value and wisdom of the law. Not one white school out of a dozen in America can present such a degree of cleanliness in its schoolhouse, tidiness in its children or proficiency in its education as was shown in this school. After spending a half-hour hearing the children in their lessons, Gen. Cameron rose and said: "I am surprised at what I have seen here to-day, and to say that I am gratified would faintly describe the impressions left upon my mind. The proficiency of these children demonstrates the fact that the only difference between the black and the white child is in

THE COLOR OF THE SKIN,

that there is no degree of training of which the white child is capable that the black child is not also. These children are solving the problem here which has puzzltd the minds of the United States, and what a blessing this illustration would be to the children of my country could this school be transplanted as an example of what freedom of action and education does for the colored child. The intelligence displayed by these children, and their careful training by the schoolmaster, illustrate the great difference between the influence in slavery and freedom. A great section of the United States would look upon this school to-day with wonder and amazement, while another section would see in these evidences of intelligence the denial and the proof of the assertion that Negroes were not capable of self-government and of becoming good citizens. I am as much gratified at your system of education and methods of training as I am at what I see. You are teaching these children, sir, to become good citizens; you are putting in their minds the means of taking care of themselves, both civilly and politically, and no man is to-day capable of estimating the value of that learning to every little child here present. The rudiments of an education are the foundation of all usefulness. When education is acquired as an auxilary to industry, mankind prospers; when it is taught so as to increase idleness, then mankind suffers. I thank you both,

CHILDREN AND MASTER,

for this illustration of what can be done for the colored child where freedom and proper training go hand in hand."

These remarks of Gen. Cameron impressed the children very much, and the next day the master conveyed to the general the request of the school for his photograph, and a reference to this fact started the conversation at the governor's table. When we had turned homeward from the visit to the school, Col. Duffy, our Democratic companion, said: "I never saw a neater or more intelligent lot of children in my life for their age, and there was one thing as noticeable as their efficiency in education, and that was their cleanliness, both in person and surroundings. Their system of education is also the best for the district school I ever saw." "I would regulate by law our system of edtcation just as we find it upon this island," said Gen. Cameron, in reply to Col. Duffy's remark. "It is just what our white, as well as colored, people need to fit them for practical life."—*Boston paper.*

Before the use of checks and drafts was as common as it is at present, it was a customary piece of caution in sending considerable sums by mail to tear bank notes in halves and forward the pieces separately. Half of a $500 bill was sent in 1839 or 1840 in a letter which reached the New York post office addressed to "William Warner, Fulton," while on the line beneath the inscription was written "Market 29." The letter was intended to reach stall No. 29, Fulton Market, but, owing to the peculiar form of the address, it was delivered at No. 29, Market street, where, by a strange coincidence, there also lived a William Warner. The mistake was discovered the next day, and the carrier hastened up to No. 29 Market street, where he learned that Mr. Warner was to sail that morning for New Orleans, and had already gone aboard the Tarolinta, the vessel bound for that port. Hurrying down town again, the carrier found that the Tarolinta was still lying out in the North river, and hired a boat to take him alongside. Mr. Warren immediately gave up the letter and contents, by which he had been puzzled, and the carrier returned to shore with a light heart.—*Ex.*

FROM THE HUB.

A GRAND RECEPTION.

Last Thursday evening witnessed the grandest reception in Boston for many years. It was tendered to the Misses Helen S. and Rosa Taliaferro of New Bedford, Mass. by Mr. Thomas Downing of the Boston P. O. It was attended by the *elite* of the city. While the long line of carriages told of the merry faces within and Madame Octavia Morse's spacious double parlors No. 11 Myrtle Street, (Mr. Downing's residence) were taxed to their utmost to hold the merry throng. The ladies and gentlemen were in full dress costumes.

Among the most notable were Mr. T. Ridley and lady. Mr. J. H. Lewis and lady, Mr. James and Parker Bailey and sister, Mr. O. Connell Ruffin and sister, Mr. Hubert Ruffin and sister, Misses Lizzie Lapoint and Hattie Nelson, Messrs. H. Henderson, Joseph Gover, Henry S. Lewis and many others. The Post Office was represented by Messrs. Chapman and Goodell; the stage was also represented by Mr. T. C. Scottron, the colored tragedian, who enlivened the evening's entertainment by a personation of *Shylock* from Shakespeare's Merchant of Venice. Music was represented by Prof. F. E. Lewis, the solos by Miss Rosa Taliaferro were of the first order and heartily appreciated. Four musicians from the Germania band made modest feet uneasy and whirled them gaily around and around to the time of their pleasant strains.

Happy faces smiling brightly,
Enchanted by the magic spell;
Gentle hearts al breathing lightly
And merry as a marriage bell.

Among the most notable costumes were those worn by Mrs. Lewis and Ridley, both black silk *en traine*, and diamonds, hair *a la pompadour*, Miss Helene Taliaferro wore a black silk *en traine* and beaded overskirts of same with lavender colored and plaited silk basque, hair *a la pompadour*. Miss Rosa Taliafero wore a white tarlatan with lavender silk trimming, hair *a la Eugenie*.

Mr. Downing was in his merriest mood. He was in full dress and wore diamonds, while silks, satins and diamonds were the order of the day with the ladies. The host who was here, there and everywhere through the whole evening, had the spacious dining hall below prepared with eatables of the choicest kinds. The tables groaned with their weight of delicacies of foreign and domestic fruits, ice creams. Salads, turkey, chicken and lobster; oysters in every style, wines, tea and coffee, and many other things too numerous to mention. His decorated and imported French china and glass ware adorned the table, to which a lavish display of choice flowers materially added. In the center of one table was a large double *epergne* completely covered with flowers. In the top it held a large bouquet which was presented to Miss Hellen Taliaferro by the gentlemen guests of the party. Mr. Scottron made the presentation in a neat little speech which was kindly acknowledged by the blushing recipient, after which Mr. Downing presented each of the ladies with a *boutonier*. After an hour of feasting all repaired to the parlors again, where the light fantastic toe was tripped until near daylight the next morn.

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SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1881.

Subscribers finding this paragraph marked will understand that their subscriptions have expired, and unless they promptly renew the paper will be discontinued to their address.

The latest venture in journalism is the *Washington Sunday Item*, a six column folio. edited by S. S. Lacy and J. E. Bruce. It presents a very neat appearance, and if it continues as it has begun it is bound to make its way.

The address of the colored Virginia Republicans to President Garfield gives assurance that they are ready to enter into any alliance that will defeat the Bourbon democracy.

Rev. B. T. Tanner, of the *Christian Recorder*, last Wednesday night addressed a small audience in the Union Bethel A. M. E. church, in the interests of the Publication Department of his denomination. After which he disposed of a number of its publications, Dr. Tanner left Thursday afternoon for Baltimore.

From the declarations of the President and Republican Senators it is edident that the moral and active influence of the administration will be given in aid of Gen. Mahone in the gubernatorial contest in Virginia next Fall. We call on all Republicans, especially the colored, to aid him to the extent of their ability.

Thursday night Felix Paskett, S. G. C., of the *K*nights of Wise Men, opened a lodge of that fraternity entitled Metropolitan Lodge, No.— and installed the following as tis officers. T. B. Warrick, W. C., J. W. Cromwell, E. A., Lewis A. Cornish, W. Provost., Dr. S. L. Cook, G. S., W. G. Fearing, F. S., G. B. Anderson, W. T., Wesley Howard Ins. G., Rev. A. W. Upshaw, W. Prel., Aaron Russell, W. H., George W. Renfro, W. S. As these gentlemen are well known to the community it is believed that the order will prove as popular here as in other parts of the country in which it has been established.

Probably no better selection could have made by the citizens of Boston for a person to deliver an eulogium on the services of the late Rev. John F. W. Ware, to the Union during the war, and the cause of the colored people of Maryland, than of one who in *propria persona* was identified with those people during that trying period. Mr. Matthews as a citizen of Maryland can speak from his personal knowledge of the moral courage it required in his state for a white man to stand up for the Union, and the Negro—for under the law he had no rights.

In Maryland as in other Southern States there was no provision by the State for the education of colored youths. Northern charitable associations organized schools and appointed teachers. But here a local association, Mr. Ware among the number, contributed largely of their means and established schools throughout the State in defiance of a public sentiment which insulted lady teachers, mobbed and shot at men, and burned down churches. Whatever of education the young people in Maryland, between twenty-five and thirty-five years of age possess, is in large measure attributable to this association.

How virulent this public sentiment was against which Mr. Ware contended, we have a decidedly vivid personal remembrance.

PERSONAL.

William E. Matthews, esq., has been invited by some of theleading citizens of Boston, including the governor of the State, to deliver a memorial discourse upon the life and services of the late Rev. John F. W. Ware, in connection with the cause of the Union and the Educational and Moral Improvement of the Colored People. Mr. Matthews has accepted and will speak in Boston on Monday, April 11th.

T. Morris Chester, Dr. Garnett, Wm. G. Brown, of Louisiana and F.G. Barbadoes, are all aspirants for the Liberian Mission. Gen. Chester was once a citizen of Liberia. Dr. Garnett, who is in his declining years, is backed by strong religious and political influences.

R. G. L. Paige, member of the Virginia Legislature, is a candidate for election to the clerkship of the Norfolk (Va.) County Court. He should receive the unanimous support of his party for this position, for which he is so well fitted. Besides, it is in the line of promotion.

BALTIMORE NOTES.

The Martha Washington Tea Party given by the ladies of the Presbyterian church on Madison street, last Monday evening, eclipsed any entertainment given this season. For toilets rare and beautiful, brilliancy and refinement, the evening was especially noted. The Lecture room in which the entertainment was held presented an animated appearance; over the chairs occupied by General and Mrs. Martha Washington were hung lace curtains and lambrequins. The walls were dotted with pictures and rare paintings, and every exertion was put forth to render the guests comfortable. The ladies all appeared in ancient costumes which were rich, handsome and attractive. The guests comprised the *elite* of the city, and there was a brilliant display of jewelry and ornaments. The ladies who appeared attired in their ancient dress were Misses Pink *W*alker whose dress was one hundred years in age, being brocade crape lease with lace collar. Lena Conkling, attired in rich corn colored silk, short sleeves and jewelry; Nannie White, in white silk and lace; Madam Weaver, in changeable silk with lace collar; Misses Sarah Ewell, dotted blue silk with white French muslin and trimming; A. E. Boyer, in changeable brocade silk with the sweets of heliotropes, Maggie Mason donned in flowered silk with brown satin overdress; Mamie Thomas, in lilac *Crepe Duchesse* with broad lace collar; Mrs. Laura Bond, smiling in flowered silk one hundred years old, with an elegant comb of the same age adorning her gray locks; Miss Sarah Jones was attired in plaid silk with lace trimmings; Misses Lizzie Cornish, beautifully in white silk, blue satin trimmed and white fringe of silk; Mamie Fortune, in green silk with diamonds and necklace, known as a member of the house of honors; Mrs. Sarah Satchell, donned in black cashmere with palm-leaf handkerchief and lace collar; Frances Patterson, arrayed in a royal robe of silk accompanied with crape and lace collars and Lizzie West flourished in black cashmere and broad lace collar with a beautiful brooch of a hundred years old.

Among the gentlemen in evening dress were Messrs. J. H. Smith, and Geo. Butler, each making a dashing appearance. Mr. Smith performed the role of Gen. *W*ashington in an elegant manner and delivered an impressive and interesting address. His gray locks could not have been better, and raising high from his head, this song gushed from his heart:

> As showers from the cloud of summer
> Or tears from the eyelids start,

and was loudly applauded. It was a brilliant sight to behold this corps of distinguished personages attired in their centennial dress and perfect was every part represented and so lavish was the display of gray hair that "old maids" awakened and quietly interviewed one another as to their future course regarding matrimony; each whispering to each other:

> "Accuse not Nature, she hath done her part
> Do thou but thine."

*M*iss Nannie White was the venerable *M*artha Washington and played her part well. There was a great display of ancient jewelry and other attire and the men fell captives to the gray haired maidens and controlled with difficulty their emotions. A young man seeing the spectacle from the door said he could not unravel the brilliancy of the occasion and said: "the rest appeared a wilderness of strange thoughts but gay confusion and declared that heaven, earth and ocean had been plundered of their sweets." Two large tables well spread cried unto the guests with tea and other delicacies which were given by the people of "one hundred years ago.

The affair upon the whole was really "recherche" and takes the lead of anything of the kind ever given in this city, and it was the small hours in the morning before the guest sought the arms of *M*orpheus.

GOLIAH.

THE WASHINGTON CADETS.

THEIR MUSICAL, LITERARY, MILITARY ENTERTAINMENT.

The first entertainment of the Washington Cadets is unanimously declared to be an immense success. As for the programme it was one of the best we have ever had. Our best readers, our most brilliant pianists, our most charming singers, our most popular vocalists united to please one of those remarkably fine audiences which only Washington can draw together.

Shortly after eight Mr. Fleetwood brought Miss Sarah Tyler to the front who read "Curfew will not ring to night," then followed Miss Lucy E. Moten, who gave a serio-comic character sketch entitled Widow Bedott's poetry, a cornet solo by Mr. T. S. Kelley, "An order for a picture," by *M*iss Anna *M*ason, a Eolian Harp, a piano solo by Miss Somerville, then a reading "The Creed of the Bells" by Miss Ella W. Somerville. Miss Somerville has long been known to possess qualities of voice and manner which befit her for high excellence as a reader, but the highly artistic manner in which she rendered this well-known poem fairly thrilled the audience with delight and brought her the first *encore* of the evening when she gave a selection from Evangeline.

After the applause had died away Miss Mary Jeffrey of New York, being formally announced, gave a piano solo. This closed part first of the literary and musical exercises.

The orchestra under the leadership of Prof. Thierbach, then rendered an overture, after which Mr. J. William Cole sang INFELICE, a bass solo. Mr. Cole's appearance was the signal for rapturous applause which broke out with renewed vigor as he closed. For an *encore* he repeated a stanzas of the same song. Next, Mrs. Agnes Smallwood appeared in the Kellogg Waltz, which she gave in excellent style, and for an *encore* "Scenes that are brightest." The manner in which Mrs. Smallwood rendered both of these selections, is evidence that she still maintains her place at the head of our female vocalists. Mrs. John T. Layton then gave Jephson's "Village Blacksmith" in his usual manner and an *encore* "A Warrior bold" drew forth more general applause, Miss Blanche Washington sang very acceptably a waltz from Arditi, Miss Jeffrey accompanying her at the piano. She was encored. R. W. Tompkins sang "How so fair" and being called back told us to "Sing once again." Then mercurial W. T. Benjamin appeared, first with "Six feet of Earth" and then with a comic song. Mr. Benjamin is deservedly popular. By request Captain Kelley again appeared and gave a cornet solo, which was well received.

The last piece on the programme was "Inflammatus" by Misses Tilghman and Lou Smith, Messrs. Cole and Tompkins. This was very well given, but to be made effective it needs a very strong chorus and very strong, full soprano.

The Manager and Director Mr. Fleetwood then thanking the audience requested them to withdraw to the dining room below while the floor was was being prepared for the drill. But the audience was too much interested to withdraw to the banqueting hall and lingered near, witnesses of the rapidity with which the Cadets got the hall in readiness.

It seemed but the work of a moment before they formed in line and under the order of 1st Sergt. W. G. Marshall, their drill master, marched, wheeled and countermarched prior to Capt. C. A. Fleetwood assuming full command. Then they performed evolution after evolution and went through the manual of arms with remarkable rapidity and commendable skill.

The hearty applause which sandwiched the movements was another evidence of the hold of the Cadets upon the popular will. It was silently, but unanimously voted 1st that the Cadets are alike creditable to themseves and this community, 2nd that Captain Fleetwood deserves the thanks of the Company and the public for his efforts in their behalf and 3rd that Sergt. Marshall as a disciplinarian deserves the highest esteem which, though heretofore confined to military circles, the public now delights to share.

At the close of the drill many repaired to their homes, but for a large number of others it was but the signal of the third scene of the evening's entertainment in which "tripping it on the light fantastic" was the principal enjoyment.

It was an early hour Tuesday morning before the party eventually broke up.

BERNIE BIRD'S EASTER.

BY "POTOMAC."

For the Advocate.]

Tyler Bird lived somewhere mid the middle of the sandiest district of South Carolina. His small cabin was set down in the midst of a clump of pine trees, and, upon the first day of March, a pair of gay young mocking birds discovered his retreat and one for themselves at the same time; this latter being in a crotch. et of one of these same pine trees.

A whole day and a half was spent in serious consultation as to ways and means; for when a young couple set out for themselves in life, dependent upon their own exertions for a livelihood, no wreckless step can they afford to hazard.

Finally, all preliminaries settled, the jaunty bridegroom after tendering his mate a dainty cluster of scarlet berries, darted off through mid air to acquaint a few of his friends and relatives with the results of this his first wooing.

Swinging along on a brown branch the mate turned and twisted her pretty head now on this side, then on that, snapping up a prying beetle or two, and a prowling spider, all the while thinking—"what? who can tell me?

But I will tell you what a near neighbor and looker-on thought.

From one of the windows of the cabin, the stunted pine, the swaying branch, the mocking birds were in full view, and a little colored girl, seated in a rocker near this window, spied all three. Her eyes brightened. She leaned forward and looked intently. "Mama, there's a mocking bird! She has long black stockings on and a dash of gray across her breast. She looks quite at home, and maybe she will build."

"So I hope she will, child," and a portly figure with turbaned head and cheery smile crossed the room, and, stooping, looked out of the window in the direction of Bernie's finger.

Bernie lay back upon her pillows. Ever since the scarlet fever left her she had been slipping away,—a shadow melting into eternity. But the sight of a beloved bird roused her. Not so very long ago she had darted hither and thither among those fragrant pines, and had known where to seek for blushing roses, and papa had always called her "little mocking bird," but now her suppleness of limb was gone, her round young cheek wasted, and she had replied only last night to papa's loving inquiry:

"Your birdie's wings are broken, papa she'll never fly any more."

Day after day went. The mocking birds built their nest, and very early one morning gave a superb little musical song, to which were invited their sisters and their cousins and their aunts from far and near. The grave old pine forest echoed to its darkest depths with the melody of these warbles.

Bernie was awake and listening. She told her mother that she sometimes thought birds must fly up under the windows of heaven—they sang so wonderfully sweet.

By and by five speckled green eggs lay cosy and warm under the little mate's gray breast.

Papa brought the news.

"I do believe there will be birds by Easter."

And, sure enough, when Easter morning broke over the sober pines, shining sunbeams glinted around our nest and revealed two birdlings—blind, featherless, weak,—were they worth breaking the shells?

"But with care and feeding they'll grow to be just as beautiful as old birds, said Bernie, who had been taken out and lifted up to peer into the nest.

Yes, little one, a feebler strength breaks the shell, and lo! there dawns a resurrection—an Easter morning for this new life, which may rise it to beauty heavenward on strong wings yet. Patience! all blessed growth is slow. "First the blade, then the ear, then the full corn in the ear."

When papa came to dinner he brought a letter, and enclosed in the letter was an Easter card for Bernie. Its design was a clump of plumy ferns, and in one corner, on a patch of moss, were pictured three tiny eggs.

"It's lovely, isn't it? and I know now what it means. It is like a parable of Jesus all the way through, and my lost canary finishes it. Don't you remember, papa and mama, how sorry I felt when Goldie flew away? His cage seemed so empty and dead I put it out of sight. So when I am gone it will be only my cage you will hide away."

"Don't talk so, child," and Tyler Bird left the room.

The card was pinned to the window-sash where the little girl could see it whenever she looked.

About midnight Mrs. Bird roused her husband.

"Tyler, 'pears to me the angels are fumbling at this cage door," and the mother bent lower over her child.

Little Bernie breathed heavily and opened her eyes, looking up into the faces above her. In a few moments all was over. Bernie Bird's spirit was free to wing its way through clearer space than ours, and the Easter on earth grew into the fair Easter morning of the new Jerusalem.

HYMEN'S HALTER.

A WEDDING WHICH CALLED OUT THE ELITE OF OUR COLORED SOCIETY.

The Fifteenth Street Presbyterian Church contained last night a large and select company, representing the beauty, wealth, and culture among our colored citizens. The occasion which brought so many of them together was the solemnization of the marriage vows between Mr. Albert K. Brodie, son of Rev. Dr. Brodie, and Miss Mamie Syphax, eldest daughter of Mr. Charles Syphax, a representative and member of one of the oldest and most respected colored families of Washington. The bride, with her fair and clear complexion heightened into additional color, was a picture of loveliness. Her graceful figure was attired in white satin damasse—court en train—trimmed with old point lace and tulle, looped with a floral horse-shoe composed of lilies of the valley. On the left shoulder was a Sara Bernhardt bouquet of rare exotics; training from this was a garland of choice roses extending to the enn of the train. The bride's hair was becomingly dressed *a la Pompadeur*. The entire costume was enveloped with a beautiful flowing veil, looped with natural flowers. The groom wore full evening dress, with lappel bouquet, and looked worthy of so fair a bride. The bridal party arrived at the church precisely at half-past seven, and as the organ, under the skillful manipulation of Christopher C. McKinney, pealed forth Mendelssohn's "Wedding March," the bridal party moved in the following order up the church aisle: Ushers—Messrs. H. E. Baker, George W. Scott, Frank Hymen and Samuel B. Jackson; Misses Carrie E. Syphax, Rosetta E. Coakley, Midy B. Syphax, Mr. John Syphax and Washington Reeves, esq., relatives and immediate friends of the bride. Closely following came the bride's grandmother, Mrs. Maria Syphax, aged eighty, leaning upon the arm of the groom. Grandmother Syphax came from her home, Arlington, Va., at the special request of the bride, and the spectacle of three generations being represented at a wedding was as beautiful as it was rare. The bride in her loveliness came next, under escort of her father, and the party, arriving at the altar, assumed with easy grace of manner their proper positions, and the happy couple were soon united by Rev. Frank J. Grimke, assisted by Rev. Dr. Brodie, the groom's father, in the holy bonds of wedlock. The bridal party, after receiving the congratulations of their friends at the church, drove to their residence, Madison street, where an informal reception was held and largely attended. The presents were numerous and costly. Among them was a complete China set of exquisite workmanship, the gift of the associate teachers of the bride in the John F. Cook public school building; from Mr. Charles Lee, a complete wash-stand set; Miss Caddie E. Parke, folding chair; Mrs. John F. Cook, bed-spread; Mr. Samuel R. Jackson, cake-stand and one dozen very fine goblets; the Misses Brodie, napkins and worsted-work in form; from the pupils of the bride, a pair of ottomans; Daniel Murray, a fruit-stand; Mrs. Walter Jackson, glass pitcher; Misses Emma and Mary Jane Patterson, Brussels rug of exquisite design; Superintendent G. F. T. Cook, silver butter-dish; Misses R. E. Coakley, and L. P. Matthews, a quilt; Miss Josephine Esputa, Chinese tea-set; Mrs. King, a bonnet; Mr. G. W. Scott, toilet-set; Mr. William Syphax, bed-spread; Miss Pet Kiger, fan; Mrs. Landrick, pictures; Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Fleetwood, picture, "Head of St. Paul;" Mr. Henry Baker, damask napkins. The handsome veil worn by the bride was the gift of Mrs. Thomas Yates and her daughter Essie.—*National Republican*.

—The rendition of a piano solo by *M*iss Blanche *W*ashington is omitted in its proper place in the report of the entertainment at Tallmadge Hall. This gives us opportunity to say that Prof. Thierbach pay her a very high compliment.

E PEOPLE'S ADVOCATE.

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1881.

AGENTS.

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LOCAL.

—Societies and Churches desiring local notices of their entertainments and other special exercises in order to ensure the same should send complimentary tickets.

—Buy drugs of Beller, cor. 16th and M sts. n. w.

—Rev. G. V. Clark held forth at John Wesley church Connecticut avenue.

—James Abram Garfield Hamilton was baptized at Asbury M. E. church the other Sunday.

—LODGINGS for *two* gentlemen, near St. Luke's P. E. Church on 15th st. Inquire of the Editor of the ADVOCATE. tf.

—Go to Beller for drugs, cor. 16th and M sts. n. w.

—Thirteen persons, eleven ladies and two gentlemen, were confirmed at St. Luke's last Sunday night. Bishop Pinkney officiated, assisted by Dr. Crummell.

—Rev. R. F. Hurley filled the pulpit of Dr. Stevenson last Sunday night.

—Mr. J. N. Young of the Pension Office has purchased a neat brick house with a bay window front on Madison avenue.

Mr. and Mrs. Wolsey Hall have moved into their new brick residence on O near 17th Street.

—For drugs etc., go to Beller cor. 16th and *M* sts. n. w.

—Rev. Grimke is still condemning theatre-going, dancing and indulgence in other light amusements by professing Christians.

—The presentation of the articles won by the contestants who sold tickets for the entertainment at Bethel came off last Friday night.

—Galbraith Chapel L street near 4th n. w., J. P. Hamer paster, preaching on Sunday 10 o'clock a. m. by Rev. Randolph Somerville, at 7:30 p. m. by Samuel Jones. Members and the public generally are cordially invited.

—Rev. William Valentine is meeting with great success at Mt. Pisgah within the past three weeks he has had 16 converts.

Some Facts.

Many persons may not know anything about what is being done during this hard winter to assist the poor colored people in the Northwestern part of the city. But we will give our readers some brief statements of Mrs. Babcock's work among our people. This lady was sent here from Massachusetts in January by the American Missionary Association and she works at the Lincoln Mission.

The following is a brief statement of her work during the winter: number of second-hand garments given to the poor 825, number of families relieved 125, new material used in Industrial work 233 yards of cloth; number of garments repaired by the ladies 100, sewing class for women numbers 42, meets at 2 p. m. every Tuesday, sewing school for girls numbers 125, meets every Saturday at 10 o'clock a. m.

This is only an outline of the work this lady has be doing this winter in the Northwestern part of the city, and it is hardly that, for she has often given many food, fuel and assisted them in various ways.

OBITUARY.

Mrs. Caroline E. Jackson, beloved wife of Joseph Jackson, and daughter of the late Elton and Jane Brent, died on Wednesday, April 6th inst., at 10 o'clock p. m. The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from John Wesley A. *M.* E. Zion church, Connecticut ave. bet. L and *M* streets n. w., Saturday at 2 o'clock p. m.

The editor of the *Leader* had the pleasure (?) of attending a reception which General Mahone gave to the "colored troops," on the 30th of July, 1864, at the "Crater," in front of Petersburg. We gave the General the best we had in our "box," and that he did likewise no one who saw the gray-coats swarming down from Cemetery Hill on that fearful day will deny. The General's brave, manly defense of a free ballot and an honest count in the grand old Commonwealth of our birth, makes us forget the past and long to stretch our hand acsoss the bloody chasm and give him a cordial shake.—*Leader.*

The Illustrated Scientific News.

The April number of this interesting and popular magazine is just out.

Among the various subjects illustrated in this number is an engraving of the late Emperor of Russia's steam yacht Livadia; a series of views illustrating wood working attachments for foot lathes; Prof. Secchi's solar photographic apparatus, with six distinct views of the sun taken by this instrument; engravings of the boats and apparatus used on Lake Geneva for determining the velocity of sound in water; a new machine for decorating enameled surfaces; engravings of several curious animals and objects in natural history, and an elaborately illustrated article on Bee Culture.

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